

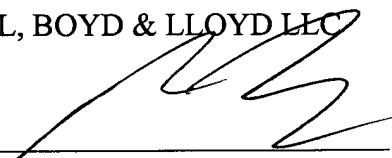
REMARKS

Pursuant to this Preliminary Amendment, Claims 1-29 have been amended and Claims 30-35 have been added. This Preliminary Amendment does not add new subject matter. The amendments to the claims are being made for purposes of placing the claims in proper format and other reasons not related to avoiding the prior art. Therefore, Applicants do not intend to disclaim any subject matter in view of the Preliminary Amendment.

Respectfully submitted,

BELL, BOYD & LLOYD LLC

BY



Robert M. Barrett  
Reg. No. 30,142  
P.O. Box 1135  
Chicago, Illinois 60690-1135  
Phone: (312) 807-4204

Dated: August 22, 2003